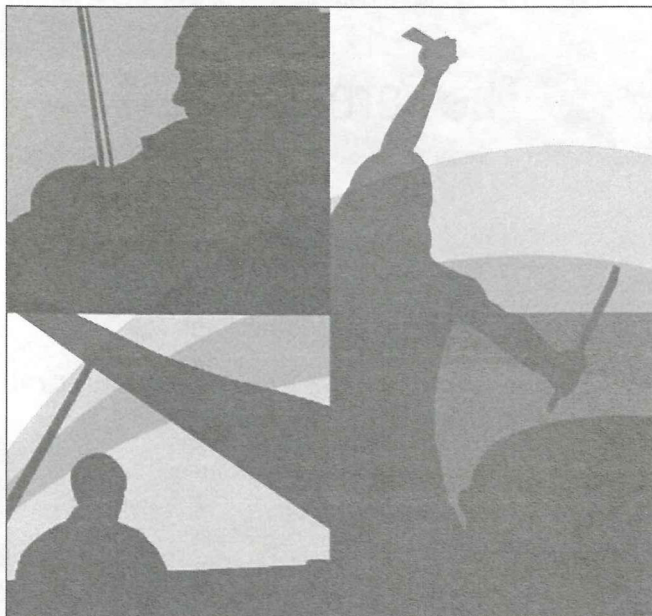


CD 2007--57/58

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO FACULTY OF MUSIC



2007-2008 SEASON



WHERE GREAT MINDS MEET GREAT MUSIC

Wednesday, October 3, 2007
7:30 pm. MacMillan Theatre

The Friends of Herman Geiger-Torel and
the University of Toronto Faculty of Music
Present

The Torel Concert

This concert is presented through the generosity of Hans Kluge

Featuring
Russell Braun, Michael Colvin, Mary Lou Fallis,
Susan Platts, Gary Relyea, Monica Whicher
with special guests Jean Edwards and Joan Hall

In a program which chronicles Dr. Torel's life in words and music
with the University of Toronto Symphony Orchestra
conducted by Raffi Armenian
and narrated by John Leberg

All of the artists who are performing tonight have kindly donated their services
in aid of establishing the annual Torel Lecture which will be a monument
in perpetuity to this wonderful man.

The Faculty of Music gratefully acknowledges the generous support of our season sponsors



An affinity for service

The photographing, sound recording, or videotaping of this performance without the
written permission of the Faculty of Music is strictly prohibited.

We kindly request that you switch off your cellular phones, pagers, watch beepers, and any
other electronic devices that could emit a potentially unwelcomed sound.

Torel Concert
100th Birthday
Programme Order

Overture to *Die Meistersinger*

Russell Braun – The Count's Aria, *The Marriage of Figaro*

Michael Colvin – Dies Bilndis ist bezaubernd, *The Magic Flute*

Russell Braun & Monica Whicher – Sylvio and Nedda Duet, *I Pagliacci*

Gary Relyea – Il lacerate spirito, *Simon Boccanegra*

Jean Edwards and Joan Hall – Prayer – *Hansel and Gretel*

Susan Platts – Wesendonck Lieder

Intermission

Overture to *Die Fledermaus*

Gary Relyea & Mary Lou Fallis – La ci darem la mano, *Don Giovanni*

Michael Colvin – Dein ist mein ganzes zu herz, *Land of Smiles*

Mary Lou Fallis – Running the gamut, *Mozart/Humperdink*

Monica Whicher – Lullaby, *Louis Riel*

Tutti – Finale from *Die Fledermaus*

Program

Overture to *Die Meistersinger* (Wagner)

Michael Colvin

Dies Bildnis ist bezaubernd schön, *Die Zauberflöte* (Mozart)

Gary Relyea

Il lacerato spirito, *Simon Boccanegra* (Verdi)

Jean Edwards & Joan Hall

Prayer, *Hänsel und Gretel* (Humperdink)

Gary Relyea & Mary Lou Fallis

La ci darem la mano, *Don Giovanni* (Mozart)

Russell Braun & Monica Whicher

Sylvio and Nedda duet, *I Pagliacci* (Leoncavallo)

Susan Platts

Wesendonck-Lieder (Wagner)

INTERMISSION

Overture to *Die Fledermaus* (J. Strauss)

Russell Braun

The Count's Aria, *Le Nozze di Figaro* (Mozart)

Mary Lou Fallis

Running the gamut (Mozart/Humperdink)

Michael Colvin

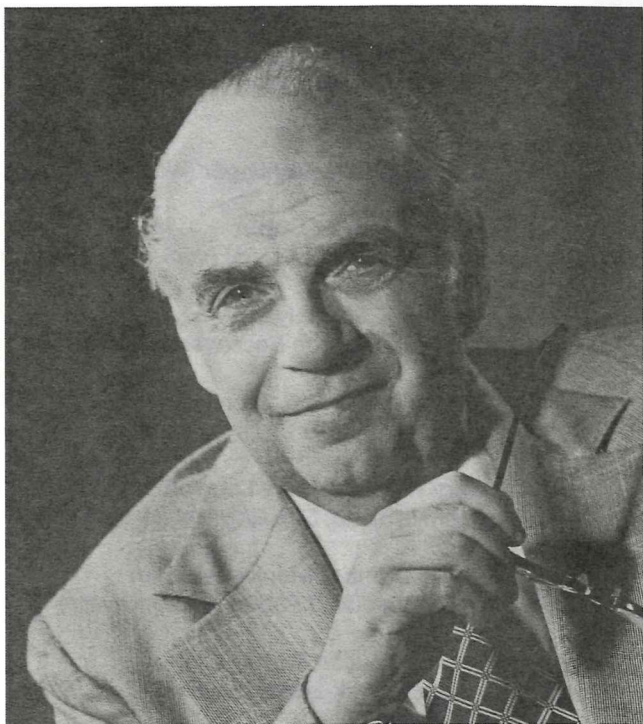
Dein ist mein ganzes Herz, *Land des Lächelns* (Lehar)

Monica Whicher

Lullaby, *Louis Riel* (Harry Somers)

Tutti

Finale from *Die Fledermaus* (J. Strauss)



Herman Geiger-Torel

Herman Berthold Gustav Geiger-Torel was born in Frankfurt-am-Main on July 17, 1907. At the age of 23 he found himself in charge of the stagings at the Salzburg Festival. He joined the opera company in Troppau Czechoslovakia where Torel befriended Nicholas Goldschmidt, the associate conductor and chorus master. Because Torel was a Jew, future work in Germany was cancelled and he spent the war years in South America. It was after his first visit to Toronto in 1948 that Torel realized the possibility of building a major national opera company in Canada. Nicholas Goldschmidt became the first music director and Herman Geiger-Torel the first stage director. Together they organized the conception of what we know as the Canadian Opera Company. Because of his vision and his vast knowledge of all aspects of the opera business, Torel led the company for over 25 years through thick and thin, never compromising his artistic vision. - John Leberg

Biographies

In order of appearance

Director of Orchestral Studies at the University of Toronto Faculty of Music, **Raffi Armenian** was Artistic Director of the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony and founded the Canadian Chamber Ensemble at the Stratford Festival where he was Music Director. He has guest conducted major orchestras in Canada, Belgium, Italy and the United States, as well as the Jeunesses Musicales World Youth Orchestra. He has conducted opera productions in Toronto, Montreal, Detroit, Columbus and Indiana, in a vast repertoire, including *Wozzeck* for the Canadian Opera Company, and *Rake's Progress*. From 1982 to 1985 he was Artistic Director of the Opera Studio of Opera de Montreal. In 1989, he conducted the final public appearance of the great Canadian tenor Jon Vickers, in a concert performance of Wagner's *Parsifal*. Raffi Armenian's work has received countless honors including the Canadian Grand Prix du Disque for *Serenades*, and an Emmy Award nomination for the TV performance of Menotti's *The Medium* starring Maureen Forrester. He is a recipient of Honorary Doctorates from the University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University, and the Golden Jubilee Medal of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. In 1989 he was invested into the Order of Canada.

Irish-Canadian tenor **Michael Colvin** has achieved international recognition with acclaimed performances throughout Canada, the United States and Europe. In past seasons, he has performed an exciting mix of debuts and important return engagements including Roderigo in Rossini's *La Donna del Lago* for Garsington Opera (UK), Ferrando in *Così fan tutte* to open the Canadian Opera Company's new Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts and Count Almaviva in Opera Lyra Ottawa's *The Barber of Seville*. Concert highlights this season includes a return to San Francisco for *Weinachtsoratorium* with

Nicholas McGegan and his Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 and Mozart's *Requiem* with Peter Oundjian and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, *Elijah* with the Ulster Orchestra in Belfast, Northern Ireland, Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* for the National Ballet of Canada and Arvo Pärt's *Passio* with the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir. Future highlights include Portland Opera's *La Cenerentola*, Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 with the National Arts Centre Orchestra, Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius* with the Elora Festival and Verdi's *Requiem* with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. A graduate of the Faculty of Music's Opera Division, Mr. Colvin has also trained with the Canadian Opera Company's Ensemble Studio, the Britten-Pears School in Aldeburgh, England and Canada's Banff Centre for the Arts. He has been the recipient of numerous awards and scholarships, most notably the Canadian Opera Foundation Award, the Canadian Opera Volunteer Committee's Distinguished Graduate Award and a Chalmers Performing Arts Award.

Known for the richness of his voice and his compelling musical insights, bass-baritone **Gary Relyea** is one of the most distinguished artists currently before the public. He has thrilled audiences in Britten's *War Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah*, Mahler's Symphony No. 8, and Verdi's *Requiem* with such orchestras as the Cleveland, Montreal, Toronto, Baltimore, Detroit, San Francisco, Calgary and Vancouver Symphonies and the National Arts Centre Orchestra. He debuted with the Philadelphia Orchestra in Schönberg's *Gurrelieder* conducted by Sir Simon Rattle, with performances in both Philadelphia and at Carnegie Hall. He later repeated the work with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Relyea performs extensively in opera, singing such roles as Raimondo in *Lucia Di Lammermoor*, and Friar Laurence in Gounod's *Romeo et*

Juliette. His debut as Rocco in Beethoven's *Fidelio* coincided with the release of his CBC disc featuring scenes from *Boris Godunov* and *Lucia Di Lammermoor* with the Vancouver Symphony conducted by Sergiu Commissiona. Titled *Thine Angel's Spirits*, the disc also contains arias from Elgar's *Dream Of Gerontius* and Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. He is featured on CBC's *Rarities by Rossini and Verdi*, and starred in TV productions of *The Bear* by William Walton, *Aberfan* by Raymond Pannell, and as the Commendatore in Leporello's *Revenge*, Rhombus Production's take on *Don Giovanni*.

Toronto-born **Mary Lou Fallis** made her operatic debut at age 15 as the Second Spirit in a CBC-TV production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*. After obtaining her Master's degree in Performance and Literature from the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto, her career has encompassed performances of major oratorios and choral works with leading orchestras, as well as opera - her roles ranging from Despina in *Così fan tutte* to Zerbinetta in Richard Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos*. In addition to her North American engagements, Mary Lou has extensively toured the United Kingdom, appearing in London's West End, Covent Garden International Festival, the Wexford Opera Festival and the Edinburgh International Festival. In recent years, she is probably best known as the creator of five one-woman shows: *Primadonna*, based on her own life as a singer (which won an ACTRA award) and its sequel *Primadonna's First Farewell Tour*; *Emma, Queen of Song about the real-life Canadian diva, Emma Albani*; *The Mrs. Bach Show hosted by Anna Magdalena, the wife of J.S. Bach*; and *Ms. Mozart, the story of Nannerl* (sister of the more famous Wolfgang).

Jean Edwards and **Joan Hall** are two of our Opera Pioneers. Jean was born in Calgary and Joan hails from Winnipeg and both had distinguished careers in opera and concert repertoire. In 1949 Dr. Torel put together an Ontario Tour of *Hansel and Gretel* which starred both these artists:

Jean was Gretel and Joan was Hansel. Tonight they will recreate their roles as they honour and remember their friend and mentor Herman Geiger-Torel.

Canadian opera sensation **Russell Braun** has appeared with the Metropolitan Opera in New York, l'Opéra de Paris, the State Opera in Vienna, the Lyric Opera in Chicago, the Los Angeles Opera, La Scala in Milan, the Salzburg and the Glyndebourne Festivals. The 2006-2007 season featured Russell Braun in a challenging combination of recitals, concerts and opera on two continents. The season began with his ROH Covent Garden debut as Valentin in *Faust*. Performances of *Così fan tutte* followed in Toronto's new opera house, the *Kinder-totenlieder* with the Toronto Symphony, a recital of *Winterreise* with Richard Monette in St. Mary's and *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* in Japan. Mr. Braun made a number of appearances in New York including a duo recital with Isabel Bayrakdarian for the London Foundation, a performance of the *Dichterliebe* at the 92nd Street Y, appearances at the Metropolitan Opera as Silvio in *I Pagliacci* and as Figaro in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. Recitals in Waterloo and Toronto and concerts with the Atlanta and Vancouver Symphony Orchestras rounded out the season. Upcoming performances will include return engagements at the Canadian Opera Company, the San Diego Opera, the Salzburg Festival and a joint recital with his friend and singing partner tenor Michael Schade at Roy Thomson Hall and in Ottawa.

British-born Canadian mezzo-soprano **Susan Platts** brings a uniquely rich and wide-ranging voice to the concert and recital repertoire for alto and mezzo-soprano. She recently made her debuts at Teatro alla Scala and Teatro di San Carlo as well as return appearances with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra and Vancouver Symphony. She also performed at last year's National Arts Centre Gala with Kathleen Battle. In May 2004, as part of the Rolex Mentor and Protégé

Arts Initiative, world-renowned soprano Jessye Norman chose Ms. Platts from 26 candidates world-wide to be her protégée. Since then, Susan has had the honor of mentoring with Ms Norman. During past seasons, Ms. Platts has performed at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center as well as with the Philadelphia Orchestra, CBC Radio Orchestra (Mario Bernardi), L'Orchestre de Paris (Christoph Eschenbach), NACO (Pinchus Zuckerman), Toronto Symphony Orchestra (Sir Andrew Davis, Jane Glover), Les Violons du Roy (Bernard Labadie), the Oregon Bach Festival (Helmuth Rilling), the L.A. Chamber Orchestra and the Detroit Symphony (Itzhak Perlman). Ms Platts has opened two of America's distinguished art song series: the Vocal Arts Society at the Kennedy Center, and the "Art of the Song" Series at Lincoln Center. This fall, she will perform with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra in Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 and Mahler's *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen* as well as appearing at the new Four Seasons Centre singing Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* with the National Ballet. She will also make her debut with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra with Roberto Abbado. She has recorded *Das Lied von der Erde* for Fontec Records with Gary Bertini and the Tokyo Metropolitan Orchestra, a CD of dramatic sacred art songs with Dalton Baldwin, *Lieder eines*

fahrenden Gesellen with the Smithsonian Chamber Players and Santa Fe Pro Musica for Dorian Records and most recently, Brahms' *Zwei Gesänge* on the ATMA label with Steve Dann and Lambert Orkis.

Style and musical elegance combined with an intuitive theatrical sense are the hallmarks of soprano **Monica Whicher's** performances on the concert and opera stage. Praised in *Opera Magazine* for her performance as Mérope in Lully's *Persée* for Opera Atelier, Ms. Whicher has subsequently appeared as the Countess in *Le nozze di Figaro* for the same company, and was featured in Mozart's *Requiem* at Ottawa's National Arts Centre conducted by Pinchas Zuckerman. Heard with orchestras and opera companies in Spain, Scotland, England, Canada and the United States, her concerts and recitals are broadcast regularly by CBC Radio 2 and her recordings of Bach, Schubert, Somers and Hatzis are available on Marquis Classics, CBC and other labels. She appeared in Mozart's *Il re pastore* for the Canadian Opera Company and has collaborated with renowned conductors including Sir Andrew Davis, Mario Bernardi and Franz Paul Decker. Monica Whicher studied at the University of Toronto where she received her Bachelor of Music in performance from the Faculty of Music.



Next on the Orchestra Series
Saturday, December 8, 2007
U OF T SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
WITH THE MONTREAL CONSERVATORY ORHCESTRA

Raffi Armenian, conductor

PROGRAM

Ravel Alborado del Gracioso

Strauss Ein Heldenleben

7:30 pm. MacMillan Theatre. \$18(\$10 senior/student)

THE FRIENDS OF HERMAN GEIGER-TOREL

Connoisseur Level

M. H. Bindhardt
Eleanor Calbes
W. James Craig and Constance Fisher
Miranda Davies
R. S. C. Donald
James R Fisher
Theresa Gray Gasparini
Genovese Vanderhoof & Associates
The Honourable Henry N. R. Jackman
Hans Kluge
John and Marg Leberg
Leon Major
Lotfi and Midge Mansouri
Arlene M. Meadows
Carol Anne Muncaster
Cornelius and Natalie Opthof
Muriel V. Smith
Janet Stubbs

Partner Level

Bernard and Eileen Fitch
Don McManus and Marie Pendleton
Joan Paulseth

Devotee Level

Kathleen J Arab
American Federation of Musicians
Edith and Glenn Gardiner
Marguerite Gignac
Gwenlynn Little
Briane Nasimok
Virginia Rylski
Hilde Stork

Friend Level

Frances Berry
George Brough
Mary C. Carr
Diane H Nelsen
Roxolana Roslak

University of Toronto Symphony Orchestra

Violin I

Luri Lee, *concertmaster*
Matthew Chan
Joyce Kim
James Kruspe
Michelle Lee
Iain McKay
Kevin Nguen
Steve Tsitsos
Jane Yang

Violin II

Takayo Noguchi, *principal*
Jason Bain
Calvin Cheng
Holly Cheng
Eun A Jo
Markus Medri
Colin Repas
Monica Westerholm

Viola

Mark Johnson, *principal*
Mohammed Abu Ramadan
Mohsin Bhujwalla
Milo Burstyn
Louisa Cornacchia
John Ng
Sarah Torrance

Cello

Amber Walton-Amar,
principal
Breton Chan
Brian Holt
Christopher Hwang
Veronica Nettles
Marie-Cristine Pelchat-
St. Jacques

Double Bass

Callum Jennings, *principal*
Adrian Rigopulos, *principal*
Joshua Bell
Michael Brough
Deirdre Bryant
Jonathan Dushman
Alexander Kotyk
Calvin Marks
Samantha McLellan
Ben Whitely

Flute

Roseen Giles
Kaili Maimets
Eun Ji Park

Clarinet

Mark Dimitroff
Alix Haywood
David Perry
John Williams

Oboe

Helena Choi
Daniel Grains
Victoria Hong

Bassoon

Lance McMillan
Devin Wesley
Krista Wodelet

Horn

Mikhail Babiak
Marina Krickler
Amy Milan
Emily Rapson
Curtis Vander Hyden

Trumpet

Andrea Vaughan
Tim Watson
Robert Weymouth

Trombone

Nathan Fanning
Nelson Garces
Nick Mahon

Tuba

Jacky Siu

Percussion

Allison Bent
Charlie Macleod
Maya Postepski
Amie Watson

Karen Wiseman,
*Performance Collection
Librarian*
Fred Perruzza, *Director,
Theatre Operations*
Ian Albright, *Technical
Assistant*
Bob Dunkin, *Production
Assistant*

VOCAL MASTER CLASSES



Michael Schade

Riki Turofsky Masterclass Series

Friday, November 30, 2007

Operatic repertoire

2:30 pm. Walter Hall. Free



Carol Vaness

John R. Stratton Visiting Artist

Monday, February 4, 2008 (*Art Song*) - 7:30 pm

Tuesday, February 5, 2008 (*Opera*) - 12:10 pm

Walter Hall. Free



DONIZETTI: L'ELISIR D'AMORE

November 8, 9, 10 7:30 pm

November 11 2:30 pm

MacMillan Theatre. \$26 (\$16 senior/student)

OPERA TEA

Mozart: *The Magic Flute*

Sunday, December 9 2:30 pm

MacMillan Theatre Stage. \$26

Party Pieces: A sampling of operatic favourites, chosen by our patrons and performers

Sunday, January 27 2:30 pm

MacMillan Theatre Stage. \$26

STUDENT COMPOSERS OPERA WORKSHOP

World première of three short operas featuring singers of the Opera Division

Friday, February 1 12:10 pm

Walter Hall. Free

HANDEL: ARIODANTE

March 13, 14, 15 7:30 pm

March 16 2:30 pm

MacMillan Theatre. \$26 (\$16 senior/student)

TOGETHER WITH MUSIC: THE WORDS AND MELODIES OF NOËL COWARD

April 18 & 19 7:30 pm

Walter Hall. \$14 (\$8 senior/student)

